

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

Claims 1-10 (canceled).

11. (currently amended): A method for prevention or inhibition of progression of diabetic complication an arteriosclerotic disease, which comprises administrating to a type II diabetic patient before meal 5 to 45 mg of metformin or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a hydrate thereof as a single dose.

12. (original): A method for prevention or inhibition of progression as claimed in claim 11 wherein the single dose is 5 to 22 mg.

13. (currently amended): A method for prevention or inhibition of progression as claimed in claim 11 wherein the single dose is 10 to 11 mg and the active ingredient is metformin hydrate.

Claims 14-16 (canceled).

17. (new): A method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the type II diabetic patient is a patient whose HbA<sub>1C</sub> value is not less than 6.5% and the 1 hour or 2 hour value of postprandial plasma glucose is not less than 200 mg/dL even after more than 8 weeks diet therapy.

18. (new): A method as claimed in claim 11, which comprises administering within 10 minutes before starting the meal.

19. (new): A method as claimed in claim 12, which comprises administering within 10 minutes before starting the meal.

20. (new): A method as claimed in claim 13, which comprises administering within 10 minutes before starting the meal.

21. (new): A method as claimed in claim 17, which comprises administering within 10 minutes before starting the meal.

22. (new): A method as claimed in claim 11, which comprises administering within 5 minutes before starting the meal.

23. (new): A method as claimed in claim 12, which comprises administering within 5 minutes before starting the meal.

24. (new): A method as claimed in claim 13, which comprises administering within 5 minutes before starting the meal.

25. (new): A method as claimed in claim 17, which comprises administering within 5 minutes before starting the meal.